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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket: 622/43633C3  
PATENT

NO  
6-PA-2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: RUDOLF WAGNER ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/766,835 Group Art Unit: 1762

Filed: JANUARY 23, 2001 Examiner:

Title: PROCESS FOR HANDLING WORKPIECES AND APPARATUS  
THEREFOR

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following amendments are submitted preliminarily to an examination  
on the merits.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 28-44.

Please add the following new claims 44-99:

31 44 (New) A method for manufacturing surface treated workpieces

comprising the steps of:

loading said workpieces into a treatment facility comprising at least  
two stations operating each on workpiece batches grouped as respective station  
batches and being different with respect to number of workpieces;

transporting said workpieces to and from said at least two stations  
grouped as a transport batch and

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